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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/977,900	10/10/2001	Bruce W. Stevens	80072	6876

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EXAMINER
ROSWELL, MICHAEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2173	

DATE MAILED: 05/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

   A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>07 March 2006</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>21-34</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>21-34</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 21-27, 30-31 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bookspan, Mills, Liang et al (US Patent 6,766,355), hereinafter Liang, and Suzuki (US Patent 6,470,356).

Regarding claim 21, Bookspan teaches the use of Microsoft Outlook to schedule, coordinate, and synchronize presentation broadcasts across a network. Outlook must be installed on every computer on the network in order for a user to receive messages about the presentation (see col. 5, lines 33-41), and controls the presentations by delivering presentation content to audience computers (at col. 22, lines 1-21).

Bookspan fails to explicitly teach installing at least two different sets of files to be played for the coordinated presentation on each of a plurality of computers, the different sets of files being installed on at least two of the plurality of computers.

Liang teaches a system relating to multi-user communication in environments such as collaborative computing, distance learning, and shared virtual worlds, similar to the network presentation environment of Bookspan. Furthermore, Liang teaches installing at least two different sets of files to be played for the coordinated presentation on each of a plurality of computers, the different sets of files being installed on at least two of the plurality of computers, taught as the use of shared and non-shared parts of a multimedia scene, wherein networked clients maintain similar shared parts and differing non-shared parts of any particular multimedia

scene to which the networked clients all have access, at col. 6, lines 2-14. Liang further teaches that the files may be streamed from permanent storage on a client device, at col. 7, lines 28-31.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bookspan and Liang before him at the time the invention was made to modify the presentation coordination system of Bookspan to include the at least two different sets of files to be played of Liang.

One would have been motivated to make such a combination for the advantage of secure data changing and updating in multi-user multimedia, such that only an authorized user may make a change.

Bookspan and Liang, however, fail to explicitly teach at least one scenario file on each of the plurality of computers, the at least one scenario file associating a playing time for a file of the at least one set of files on each of the plurality of computers such that an effective beginning time is associated with each file, the scenario file scheduling playing of different files on different ones of the plurality of computers in a coordinated manner. The examiner notes that Bookspan teaches indication of an effective beginning time associated with a shared presentation, at col. 13, lines 20-28.

Suzuki teaches a multimedia information audiovisual apparatus which enables a user to see and listen to a presentation composed of various types of media, similar to those of Bookspan and Suzuki. Furthermore, Suzuki teaches at least one scenario file on each of the plurality of computers, the at least one scenario file associating a playing time for a file of the at least one set of files on each of the plurality of computers such that an effective beginning time is associated with each file, the scenario file scheduling playing of different files on different ones of the plurality of computers in a coordinated manner, taught as the use of a scenario file

for "describing a combination in time and space of the media information for executing a presentation", at col. 2, lines 30-52 and shown in Fig. 2.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bookspan, Liang and Suzuki before him at the time the invention was made to modify the presentation coordination system with differing sets of client-specific files of Bookspan and Liang to include the scenario files for specifying the playing time of a file in a presentation of Suzuki.

One would have been motivated to make such a combination for the advantage of allowing a user to see and listen to a presentation effectively. See Suzuki, col. 2, lines 26-29.

Bookspan, Liang, and Suzuki fail to explicitly teach synchronizing each computer to a common time.

Mills describes the use of a Network Time Protocol (NTP) for synchronizing the clocks of host computers and routers in the Internet in use since 1992 (see Mills, pages 2 and 9), or over a network such as that used by Bookspan, Liang, and Suzuki.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bookspan, Liang, Suzuki and Mills before him at the time the invention was made to modify the synchronized broadcast system of Bookspan, Liang, and Suzuki to include the common time synchronization of Mills in order to obtain a system for the synchronized broadcast of presentations wherein all computers in the network have a common time.

One would be motivated to make such a combination for the advantages of synchronization for real-time teleconferencing and presentation broadcasting, transaction journaling and logging, network monitoring, and secure time stamping, among other uses. See Mills, page 4.

Thus, the combination of Bookspan, Liang, Suzuki, and Mills is enabled to teach playing

each file in each corresponding at least two sets of files for each of the plurality of computers

(as taught by Liang) according to the scenario file on that computer (as taught by Suzuki) and

the synchronized time as coordinated by the software control program (as taught by Bookspan

and Mills) to result in a coordinated presentation of files on each computer of the plurality of

computers.

Regarding claims 22-23, Suzuki teaches the at least two sets of files including graphic

files and sound files, as Suzuki allows for the reproduction of visual and sound information, at

col. 2, lines 41-45.

Regarding claim 24, Suzuki teaches the set of files including executable files, as Suzuki

allows for the setting of a time starting the reproduction of a medium through an execution start

time, at col. 3, lines 66-67.

Regarding claim 25, Suzuki teaches the scenario file including play duration associated

with each file, taught as the reproduction time length of col. 4, lines 5-8.

Regarding claim 26, Suzuki teaches an effective beginning time and play duration time

being determined on the basis of a beginning time and an ending time, at col. 7, lines 6-10 at

seen in Fig. 8.

Regarding claim 27, the determination of an effective beginning time and play duration

time based on previous play duration times is not a feature necessarily controlled by the

presentation system of Bookspan, Liang, Suzuki, and Mills. Such a determination may

inherently be done by a user creating a presentation for display, and modifying the presentation

as they see fit. The creation of a multimedia presentation by a user is an inherent event in the

system of Bookspan, Liang, Suzuki, and Mills.

Regarding claim 30, Suzuki teaches selecting one of the provided at least one scenario

files when more than one scenario file is provided wherein the step of playing each file

comprises playing the file in accordance with the selected scenario file, taught as the relation of

a scenario file to a corresponding presentation, which implies the existence of multiple scenario

files and presentations, at col. 7, lines 6-10.

Regarding claim 31, Bookspan teaches the use of Microsoft Outlook to schedule,

coordinate, and synchronize presentation broadcasts across a network. Outlook must be

installed on every computer on the network in order for a user to receive messages about the

presentation (see col. 5, lines 33-41), and controls the presentations by delivering presentation

content to audience computers (at col. 22, lines 1-21). Such computers typically include a

display and a local storage.

Bookspan fails to explicitly teach at least one set of presentation display files having a

plurality of files loaded in a local storage of each computer, at least two of the computers having

a different plurality of files.

Liang teaches a system relating to multi-user communication in environments such as

collaborative computing, distance learning, and shared virtual worlds, similar to the network

presentation environment of Bookspan. Furthermore, at least one set of presentation display

files having a plurality of files loaded in a local storage of each computer, at least two of the

computers having a different plurality of files, taught as the use of shared and non-shared parts of a multimedia scene, wherein networked clients maintain similar shared parts and differing non-shared parts of any particular multimedia scene to which the networked clients all have access, at col. 6, lines 2-14. Liang further teaches that the files may be streamed from permanent storage on a client device, at col. 7, lines 28-31.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bookspan and Liang before him at the time the invention was made to modify the presentation coordination system of Bookspan to include the at least two different sets of files to be played of Liang.

One would have been motivated to make such a combination for the advantage of secure data changing and updating in multi-user multimedia, such that only an authorized user may make a change.

Bookspan and Liang, however, fail to explicitly teach at least two different scenario files with at least one scenario file loaded in the local storage of each computer which comprises timing information for each file of the at least one set of presentation display files, the computers having a different plurality of files having different corresponding scenario files. The examiner notes that Bookspan teaches indication of an effective beginning time associated with a shared presentation, at col. 13, lines 20-28.

Suzuki teaches a multimedia information audiovisual apparatus which enables a user to see and listen to a presentation composed of various types of media, similar to those of Bookspan and Suzuki. Furthermore, Suzuki teaches at least two different scenario files with at least one scenario file loaded in the local storage of each computer which comprises timing information for each file of the at least one set of presentation display files, the computers having a different plurality of files having different corresponding scenario files, taught as the

use of a scenario file for "describing a combination in time and space of the media information for executing a presentation", at col. 2, lines 30-52 and shown in Fig. 2, which contain a scenario file for each different presentation, at col. 7, lines 6-10.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bookspan, Liang and Suzuki before him at the time the invention was made to modify the presentation coordination system with differing sets of client-specific files of Bookspan and Liang to include the scenario files for specifying the playing time of a file in a presentation of Suzuki.

One would have been motivated to make such a combination for the advantage of allowing a user to see and listen to a presentation effectively. See Suzuki, col. 2, lines 26-29.

Bookspan, Liang, and Suzuki fail to explicitly teach a means for timing synchronization joined to each of the plurality of computers for synchronizing the plurality of computers to a common time.

Mills describes the use of a Network Time Protocol (NTP) for synchronizing the clocks of host computers and routers in the Internet in use since 1992 (see Mills, pages 2 and 9), or over a network such as that used by Bookspan, Liang, and Suzuki.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bookspan, Liang, Suzuki and Mills before him at the time the invention was made to modify the synchronized broadcast system of Bookspan, Liang, and Suzuki to include the common time synchronization of Mills in order to obtain a system for the synchronized broadcast of presentations wherein all computers in the network have a common time.

One would be motivated to make such a combination for the advantages of synchronization for real-time teleconferencing and presentation broadcasting, transaction

journaling and logging, network monitoring, and secure time stamping, among other uses. See

Mills, page 4.

Thus, the combination of Bookspan, Liang, Suzuki, and Mills is enabled to teach a

software control program loaded in the local memory of each of the plurality of computers (as

taught by Bookspan), the software control program containing instructions for working with the

computer to read the scenario file from the local memory (as taught by Suzuki) and interface

with the timing synchronization means to display the file of the set of files on the presentation

display in accordance with the timing information in the scenario file and the synchronized

common time (as taught by Suzuki and Mills).

Regarding claim 34, the combination of Bookspan, Liang, Suzuki, and Mills is inherently

enabled to teach playing a presentation after the steps of installing the software control

program, installing at least different sets of files to be played, and providing at least one

scenario file, as all of the above steps must be completed prior to playing the presentation.

Claims 28, 29, 32, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Bookspan, Mills, Liang, Suzuki, and Hogle.

Regarding claim 28, Bookspan, Mills, Liang, and Suzuki been shown *supra* to teach the

limitations of claim 21.

However, Bookspan, Mills, Liang, and Suzuki do not explicitly teach at least one of the

plurality of computers having at least two display devices associated therewith, and the provided

scenario file associated with the at least one computer having at least two display devices

associates an effective beginning time for a file of the at least two sets of files with a particular display device.

Hogle teaches configuring monitor screen displays in a multiple monitor environment, and illustrates in Fig. 4 and at col. 1, lines 53-67 the display of application windows specific to a desired monitor, which may be moved to another monitor, if desired. Furthermore, Suzuki teaches at col. 3, lines 58-65 the division of the user interface into a number of separate windows capable of displaying different media as specified by the scenario file. As Hogle teaches the combining of multiple monitors into one continuous display, any specification of a window used for display in such an environment would inherently specify which monitor to display the media upon.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bookspan, Mills, Liang, Suzuki, and Hogle before him at the time the invention was made to modify the synchronized presentation display system of Bookspan, Mills, Liang, and Suzuki to include the multiple monitor display of Hogle.

One would be motivated to make such a combination for the advantage of reducing screen clutter or allowing the display of multiple large regions simultaneously. See Hogle, col. 1, lines 42-52.

Regarding claims 29 and 33, Hogle teaches a computer having at least two display devices having a display area associated with each display device (see Fig. 4). While Hogle fails to explicitly teach a raster area associated with each display device which is part of a composite raster area for all display devices, Hogle does teach the use of Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) display devices, which are notoriously well known in the art to support raster displays and composite raster displays. The examiner takes OFFICIAL NOTICE of these teachings.

Furthermore, Suzuki teaches a scenario file associating an effective beginning time for a file with a particular display device by setting coordinates within a display area for the coordinated presentation, as can be seen at col. 3, lines 58-65.

Regarding claim 32, Hogle has been shown *supra* to teach a plurality of computers comprising more than one presentation display (Figs. 3 and 4). Suzuki teaches at col. 3, lines 58-65 the division of the user interface into a number of separate windows capable of displaying different media as specified by the scenario file. As Hogle teaches the combining of multiple monitors into one continuous display, any specification of a window used for display in such an environment would inherently specify which monitor to display the media upon.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 7 March 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's arguments of pages 8-9 of the remarks, that Liang fails to teach, "installing" at least two sets of files to be played, the examiner respectfully disagrees. While Liang does indeed teach a streaming data protocol for use in the display of media, Liang also teaches the streaming of media over such storage devices as discs or CD-ROMs (col. 7, lines 28-31). Therefore, media present on a client's disc is "installed" due to its presence on such a permanent storage device.

In response to applicant's argument of pages 9-10 that Suzuki does not teach multiple different scenario files loaded on a system of computers, the examiner respectfully disagrees. Suzuki teaches in the cited passage (col. 7, lines 6-10) the creation of a scenario file associated with a corresponding presentation. As there are multiple different presentations available on the

client device as per the claimed limitations, there must inherently be multiple scenario files present on a respective client device.

As the examiner has shown Liang capable of installing sets of files before the step of playing, the examiner maintains the combination of Liang and Suzuki as being proper.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.
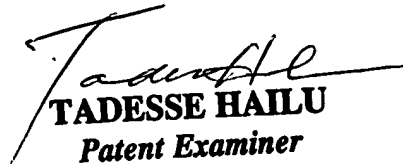
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Roswell whose telephone number is (571) 272-4055. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 6:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

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would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the

automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Michael Roswell
5/24/2006

/TADESSE HAILU
Patent Examiner